aimed at developing the skills of tribal youths including females for a variety of jobs as well as self-employment.

(ii) Scheme of SCA to TSP. (The objective of this scheme is to boost the demand-based income generation programmes. With effect from 2005-06 it has been laid down that at least 30% of the funds should be kept apart as "Women's Component" and spent for income generating activities of ST women beneficiaries.)

(iii) Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana: Under this scheme concessional financial assistance is provided exclusively for the economic development of ST women through Self Help Groups. The interest rate is as low as 4% (this scheme is run by 'National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)—a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(iv) Scheme of Coaching & Allied.

Rules to control foreign channels

†*430. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed any rules to keep check on foreign channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the channels which have violated these rules during last two years; and

(d) if answer to the part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Government introduced Uplinking Guidelines in 1998 to regulate TV

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

channels telecast in India. However, since these guidelines were not mandatory for all channels, many foreign channels continue to be uplinked from abroad but received and retransmitted in India without being regulated by these guidelines. The Government is contemplating introduction of Downlinking Guidelines to regulate the content of satellite TV channels which uplink from abroad and are downlinked in India for public viewership.

Literacy ratio

†*431. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to ascertain the literacy ratio of male and female in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years, State-wise;

(c) whether the female literacy rate in Madhya Pradesh happens to be lower than that of the other States; and

(d) whether any separate arrangement has been made to increase the female literacy in the State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The literacy rates are compiled and released decennially by the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India. A statement indicating the State-wise literacy rates of males and females, as per the Census 2001 data, is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The female literacy rate of Madhya Pradesh, as per Census 2001 data, is 50.29% as against the national level of 53.67%. The female literacy rate of Madhya Pradesh increased from 29.35% in 1991 to 50.29% in 2001, an increase of 20.94 percentage points.

The following steps have been taken to further improve the female literacy in the State:—

(i) A Mahila Padhna Badhna Andolan was implemented by the State Government during 2002-03 in which 17,02,908 women were made literate.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.